EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1.   An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or

additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR

1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the

payment of the issue fee.

2.   Authorization for the examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Ms.

Linda Zachariah, Registration No. 48,057 on October 6, 2008.

The following claims had been amended.

3.   Claim 23, line 8, replace " –releases –said" with -- release said --;

4.   Claim 29:

        29. (Currently Amended) An article comprising:

        a storage medium; and

        a plurality of programming instructions stored on the storage medium and configured,

when executed <u>by a processor</u> to coordinate access to a shared resource for a plurality of threads,

~~including~~ <u>by performing a method of:</u>

        selecting by one of the threads an action to be performed a thread upon a lock utilized by

the thread, wherein the action is selected from a group comprising:

                acquiring the lock,

                trying to acquire the lock,

and releasing the lock;

asynchronously querying and receiving a first state of the lock as a current state of the

lock, by the thread, the lock being considered to be in any one of at least four states in any point

in time, and each state is represented by a multi-part state value defined by a state machine

associated with the lock;

speculatively determining by the thread, a second state of the lock based at least in part

on the first state of the lock and the selected action; and

attempting to perform by the thread, the selected action to transition the lock from the

first state to the speculatively determined second state, the attempting including determining if

the first state remains the current state of the lock, and, if the first state remains the current state,

performing the selected action to transition the current state of the lock to the second state.

5.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Qing-Yuan Wu whose telephone number is (571)272-3776. The

examiner can normally be reached on 8:30am-6:00pm Monday-Thursday and alternate Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Meng Ai An can be reached on (571) 272-3756. The fax phone number for the

organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent

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may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

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system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR

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like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated

information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Meng-Ai An/   /Qing-Yuan Wu/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2195   Examiner, Art Unit 2194